

Dr. Arciniega's teaching career began in El Paso, Texas and later he served as Dean of Education at San Diego State University and as Provost at California State University-Fresno. His appointment as the third president of CSU-Bakersfield in 1983 ushered in an era of steady expansion and achievement at the university. As a result of Dr. Arciniega's leadership, the university's multi-cultural enrollment has more than doubled and its budget has more than tripled.

CSU-Bakersfield's success has been due in large part to Dr. Arciniega's efforts to focus public attention on the needs of low-income and minority students, who form the country's fastest-growing school-age population. Many of Dr. Arciniega's peers have credited him with helping to make higher education a reality for thousands of students for whom college would have been impossible a generation ago. He is a widely published expert on higher education administration, bilingual education, and multi-cultural education. During his distinguished career, Dr. Arciniega also served as a technical consultant to the Ministries of Education in Honduras, Bolivia, Panama, and Guatemala.

Dr. Arciniega is a highly respected community leader in the Central Valley and continues to inspire young people around the country to pursue higher education as a means to improve their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Tomas A. Arciniega for a highly successful career on the occasion of his retirement as president of CSU-Bakersfield. I wish him the best of luck and continued success.

THE LEGEND AWARD

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, this year the Franklin and Williamson County Chamber of Commerce gave three of our friends and neighbors the "Legend" award.

All three have worked to make our community a better place and they deserve thanks and recognition.

Louise Lynch has dedicated countless hours to saving the county's archives and preserving a historical record of Williamson County. Because of her many years of efforts, the Williamson County Archives is recognized not only as one of the best in the state but in the nation. Married to County Commissioner Clyde Lynch for 50 years, Mrs. Lynch is a sixth generation Williamson Countian. She previously earned the "Lady of the Year" award from Beta Sigma Phi; the Williamson Historical Society's Distinguished Service Award, and the Jane Langston Service Award for her preservation efforts.

Ronald Ligon has never wanted any credit for his work on behalf of Williamson County. While he would rather "remain in the background," we could not fail to recognize him. In 1959 he established Christus Gardens of Gatlinburg and served as vice chairman of the board at Harpeth National Bank. His extensive volunteer community service includes Boy

Scouts, Franklin Rotary Club, and Williamson Medical Foundation.

Roy Barker was awarded a Purple Heart as a result of his military service in the Battle of the Bulge. Upon returning to Williamson County after World War II, he entered the insurance and real estate business and gained respect as a business and community leader. He served in the Tennessee Constitutional Convention and the Tennessee House of Representatives.

These friends and neighbors are the reason Franklin and Williamson County are such wonderful places to live and work. We honor them for their dedication to our community.

TRIBUTE TO MR. NICOLAS R. SINCORE

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor a truly patriotic and courageous American, who through his military and public service has come to exemplify true commitment to one's nation and community.

Born in Homestead, FL, Mr. Nicolas R. Sincore graduated from Coral Shores High School in Tavernier. A proud American, Mr. Sincore served his country in various capacities, spending from 1948 to 1952 on active duty, and serving in the 11th Airborne Division, the 31st Infantry, and the 7th Division in Korea. After completing his tour of duty, Mr. Sincore enrolled at John A. Gupton College in Nashville, TN, where he excelled and earned a degree in Mortuary Science in 1959.

Following a strong desire to fulfill his civic duty, Mr. Sincore was first elected to the city of Homestead's City Council in 1971 as vice mayor/councilman, and re-elected as vice-mayor/councilman again in 1975. One year later, Mr. Sincore was appointed Mayor and re-elected to that position until 1981. He was elected again in 1983, and was re-elected as councilman until November 2003. Mr. Sincore's commitment and dedication to serving the citizens of Homestead, is a testament of his great devotion and affinity towards the community.

In addition to holding elected office, Mr. Sincore has served the city of Homestead through his leadership as the city's representative at both the Florida League of Cities and as a board member of the Florida Municipal Electric Association. Furthermore, Mr. Sincore has served as past commander of the American Legion Post 43, director of the Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce and director of the Senior Citizens Club of Homestead.

Mr. Nicholas Sincore's dedication and commitment to serving his community, his state, and his country deserves the highest praise and admiration. For many generations to come, the people of Homestead will continue to reap the benefits and rewards of Mr. Sincore's unparalleled devotion to his community. It is my distinct pleasure to honor Mr. Sincore before this body of Congress for his

more than 30 years of service to the citizens of Florida and the city of Homestead.

10 NEW NATIONS OF EUROPE WILL ENTER THE EUROPEAN UNION

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, May 1, we will witness yet another historic event in the evolution of the European Union. On that day 10 new nations of Europe will enter the European Union. This enlargement will represent the largest expansion ever undertaken by the EU.

It is clear that a strong and mature transatlantic relationship is critical to the long-term political, economic and security interests of the United States. It is also clear that one of the central ingredients to a successful transatlantic partnership is a stable, integrated and dynamic Europe.

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the 10 newest members of the European Union. I hope that the addition of these new members will help continue to strengthen our enduring friendship and critical partnership with the countries of Europe and the European Union. As the U.S. chairperson of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, I look forward to meeting and working with the Parliamentarians of these newest members who will soon take their seats in the European Parliament.

HONORING AMBASSADOR C.J. CHEN OF TAIWAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 29, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in bidding a fond farewell to Ambassador C.J. Chen of Taiwan. He will be returning to Taipei next month. During the last four years, he has been the Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Washington, DC.

A great advocate for his country, Ambassador Chen has helped us understand difficult issues such as Taiwan's peace referendum and the just concluded Taiwan presidential elections. At the same time he has helped his people better understand American values and strengthened the relations between Taiwan and the United States.

On Capitol Hill Ambassador Chen, known to many as simply "C.J.," is widely respected. Many of us admire his high intellect and industry as we have been privileged to see the personal depth within this very public man. Indeed, we have been enriched in having had this opportunity to get to know him and his lovely wife, Yolanda Ho.

As Ambassador Chen leaves Washington for Taipei, we can be sure that both our countries shall benefit from his efforts for years to come.